
Title: Horror From the Crypt

Author: Krythan

The story I am about to
relate to ye happened
not long ago, in the
Yew Crypts that lie
along Yew's eastern
forests.

I was out hunting one
day in an area

frequented by evil
monsters, when I
heard a strange
howling in the
distance. I figured it to
be a wolf or some
other creature and
paid it no attention.

After about an hour of
searching for
monsters, I noticed
that all of the animals
had either become
silent, or had left the
area. I thought it odd
also that I had not seen
the first monster

since I had arrived. I
heard the howling
noise again, but this
time it was closer. I
decided to sneak in
the direction of the
noise and find its
source, so, after
checking my reagent
supply, and making
sure my legs were
ready for a possible
retreat, I headed out
towards the east.

About ten minutes
later I heard the sound
again, and even closer,
so I knew I was near
the source. I stopped a
moment to check my
location on my map : I

was about one hundred yards from the entrance to the Yew Crypts. The noise echoed though the woods again, sending a chill down my spine.

I repacked my map and continued slowly towards the crypts, careful not to make a sound.

Twenty minutes later I was halfway to my destination. Now I could see something going on in the front entrance to the crypts, and the howling noise was twice as loud, although this time I noticed that it wasn't one, but several voices in unison making the sound.

As I neared the entrance building from behind, I noticed a purplish glow emanating from the front. I made it to the back wall and peered around the side, hoping to get a better view of what was happening. Nothing, all I could see was the glow. I moved back out into the woods and around to the eastern side, using the trees and brush as cover.

By now it was almost dark, and the glow seemed even brighter.

Creeping through the trees I finally found a vantage point from where I could view the amazing scene.

Dozens and dozens of monsters-from headless to orcs, to harpies- were standing silent and motionless, all staring towards a crude altar at the crypt entrance.

At the altar were four
wraiths, one at each
corner of the
structure. The purple
glow I had seen was
coming from the
wraiths. Each one
held it's arms
outstretched toward
the center of the altar,
and a purple beam of
light was being
emitted from each of
them, forming into a
floating ball of energy
that pulsed and grew
as I watched. Below
the ball of energy was
a skull, to which a
small stream of the
energy ball was being
funneled. The skull
seemed to be gaining
flesh and skin as it
drew in more of the
energy.

Every so
often, the wraiths
would let out a blood
curdling wail, and the
mass of monsters
would sway in
response. Leaning in to
get a closer look at the
spectacle, the low
hanging limb I was
propped on snapped,
sending me crashing
to the ground. All at
once the wraiths
turned and spotted me.
One let out a low moan,
and the horde of
monsters turned and
began towards me.
They all moved as if
they were tired and
drained of energy, and
I used this to my
advantage.

As I recited a spell
from my book, my
hand began to glow
with electrical
energy, and as the
spell chant concluded,
a bolt of lightning
shot down from the

sky, splitting into
several more bolts
which rained down
upon the legion and
stunned each monster
momentarily.

Another chain
lightning spell
concentrated on the
wraiths was
powerful enough to
kill two of them, and
severely injure the
remaining two. The
ball of energy then
exploded in a cloud of
purple smoke,
finishing off what
my spell and started.

The skull then began
to lose its flesh as
streams of purple
energy shot forth
from it and into the
congregation of dazed
monsters. As this
was happening, the
monsters began to
regain their strength
and I figured it was
time for me to get the
hell out of there. In a
flash I had recalled to
Empath Abbey,
where I spoke with a
few of the monks
about what I had
witnessed. Every one
I spoke to said that the
wraiths had been
performing some kind
of summoning ritual,
but I couldn't give
them enough details
for them to know
what it was that was
being summoned.

We all agreed, though,
that whatever was
going on out in those
woods was best left
alone. And with that, I
proceeded home to get
some much needed
rest.